

From: Ted Halmrast
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:24pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

The Microsoft Settlement is an absolute failure on the part of our government to take to task a known monopolist. Microsoft has repeatedly throughout its career demonstrated unethical business practices including but not limited to the crushing of numerous competitors and introduction of a proprietary, rather than open standards-based, status quo for computing. Microsoft's monopolistic tendencies have done so much damage to the free market of software development that it is telling that the only products still around competing with Microsoft products are those given away for free under open source. They are effectively killing the technology industry by reducing the number of companies that can effectively compete. This is bad for the consumer because it reduces choice and innovation, this is bad for the worker because there are fewer jobs, and this is bad for the economy because there are fewer companies and innovative ideas being developed to raise the financial markets.

Microsoft is a menace which must be dealt with before it can cause more damage.

Thank you,
Ted Halmrast
Software Developer
Shakopee, Minnesota, USA
Republican
tedh@tera.teralink.com